

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 048998

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SUBJECT: UNSC MEETING -- U. S. MEDIA REPORT FOR MARCH 16

PASS TO BRIAN BELL, USUN DELEGATION

PART I -- NEWSPAPERS

FIRST DAY SC MEETING RECEIVED ROUTINE ATTENTION PRINCIPAL
MEDIA WITH ONLY BALTIMORE SUN COMMENTING EDITORIALY.

WASHINGTON POST SIMONS MOST COMPREHENSIVE DISPATCH PAGE 21.
TWO COLUMN HEADLINE: " PANAMA' S LEADER HITS U. S. ON CANAL."
LEAD ANGLED TO TORRIJOS ACCUSATION U. S. PERPETUATING A
" BLATANTLY COLONIAL SITUATION BY REFUSING TO SURRENDER ITS
CONTROL OVER THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE." AFTER SUMMARIZING
TORRIJOS' SPEECH QUOTED FROM SCALI' S INTERVIEW: " HE SAID
HE TOOK A ' RATHER DIM VIEW' OF THE REFERENCE TO CUBA SINCE
THE BLOCKADE OF THE COMMUNIST ISLAND WAS UNDERTAKEN FOLLOW-
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PAGE 02 STATE 048998

ING A NEARLY UNANIMOUS DECISION BY THE OAS. ' FOR THE
SANCTIONS TO BE LIFTED CUBA HAS TO STOP TRYING TO OVERTHROW

OTHER LA GOVERNMENTS,' SCALI SAID.

" AS FOR THE CANAL, SCALI SAID: ' THE WORLD KNOWS THE U. S. IS READY TO MODERNIZE THE TREATY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PANAMANIAN, BUT IT TAKES TWO TO NEGOTIATE.'

"" PROBLEMS WITH THE CANAL,' THE AMBASSADOR CONTINUED, ' WILL BE SOLVED BY VERY QUIET AND PAINSTAKING NEGOTIATIONS, AND NOT BY SPEECHES BEFORE ANY INTERNATIONAL FORUM.'"

SIMONS REPORTED CANAL VISIT AND U. S. BRIEFING SESSION APPARENTLY WAS COMPROMISE. SHE CONCLUDES WITH A LIST OF THE P. M. SPEAKERS AND DISCUSSES ROA'S SPEECH -- ONLY CORRESPONDENT TO DO SO -- SAYING " THE LONGEST SPEECH OF THE AFTERNOON CAME FROM CUBAN FM RAOUL ROA, WHO MADE A BROAD ATTACK ON U. S. POLICY IN LA. THE U. S. -- ' THE ONLY IMPERIALIST POWER IN THE HEMISPHERE' -- REPRESENTED THE SOLE THREAT TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE AMERICAS, HE SAID. ROA RECALLED U. S. INTERVENTIONS IN GUATEMALA, CUBA AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. ' THERE IS NO DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS IN PANAMA THAT THESE TENSIONS ARE REACHING THEIR HIGHEST TEMPERATURES. THE CANAL ZONE HAS BECOME A POWDERKEG FOR PEACE AND SECURITY,' HE SAID, COMMENDING PANAMA FOR ITS ' COURAGE' IN FIGHTING THE U. S. THE SOLUTION, HE SAID, IS NATIONALIZATION OF THE WATERWAY AND THE TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF THE U. S. PRESENCE."

FINAL PARAGRAPH: " IN HIS MAIDEN STATEMENT TO THE COUNCIL, SCALI SAID HE REJECTED ' WITHOUT QUALIFICATION THE PAGE AFTER PAGE OF CALUMNY, COUNSELS OF HATE AND VOICE OF VENOM WHICH HAS POISONED THE ATMOSPHERE OF THIS CHAMBER.' ROA'S ACCUSATIONS WERE SO ' WILDLY RECKLESS' THAT THEY DID NOT MERIT DETAILED REPLIES, SCALI SAID."

THRUST SUN EDITORIAL IS THAT SC, UN, U. S., AND THIRD WORLD WOULD ALL BE BETTER OFF IF SC STAYED HOME. SUN PUBLISHED BRIEF AP ACCOUNT TORRIJOS SPEECH PAGE 2.

TIMES PUBLISHED SEVERO'S DISPATCH PAGE 16. ONE COLUMN HEADLINE: " U. S. IS DENOUNCED BY PANAMA CHIEF," SUB-UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 048998

HEADLINE: " TORRIJOS WARNS OF ' VIOLENT CHANGES' AT U. N. PARLEY." LEAD: " PANAMA TODAY DENOUNCED THE U. S. PRESENCE IN THE CANAL ZONE AS ' NEOCOLONIALISM' AND WARNED THAT IF PEACEFUL CHANGE WAS NOT PERMITTED IN LATIN AMERICA, LATINS WOULD BE FORCED' TO CARRY OUT VIOLENT CHANGES."" SUMMARIZED TORRIJOS' SPEECH AND SCALI'S COMMENTS TO NEWSMEN. FINAL SENTENCE: " MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS WERE INVITED BY THE PANAMANIAN TO TAKE A BOAT RIDE THROUGH PART OF THE CANAL AND HEADS OF DELEGATIONS WERE INVITED BY MR.

SCALI TO GATHER AT A THEATER AT THE MIRAFLORES LOCKS FOR A BRIEFING ON HOW THE CANAL WORKS."

NY DAILY NEWS RAN UPI DISPATCH PAGE 18, WHICH MENTIONS OTHER LA PROBLEMS, AS WELL AS DISCUSSING UNSC MEETING.

PART II -- RADIO/ TELEVISION

NBC AND CBS TELEVISION EVENING NEWS PROGRAMS MARCH 15 MENTIONED THE UNSC MEETING BRIEFLY. ABC- TV EVENING NEWS MARCH 15 CARRIED REPORTS FROM MURPHY AND MACVANE. MURPHY DESCRIBED CANAL, AMERICAN COLONY IN ZONE, CANAL' S ADVANTAGES TO PANAMA: " THREE FOURTHS OF THE 16,000 EMPLOYEES ARE PANAMANIAN. THEY ARE PAID THE HIGHEST WAGES IN LA. 7,500 LIVE IN THE ZONE ENJOYING THE SAME PRIVILEGES AS AMERICANS." FINISHED BY SAYING TORRIJOS BROUGHT CANAL DISPUTE TO WORLD' S ATTENTION BY BRINGING SC TO PANAMA. " WHAT ALSO WORRIES THE AMERICANS IS THE PANAMA MEETING COULD BECOME A PANDORA' S BOX OUT OF WHICH COULD POP SEVERAL SENSITIVE SUBJECTS LIKE THE GUANTANAMO LEASE WITH CUBA, THE QUARREL OVER FISHING RIGHTS WITH ECUADOR AND PERU. SUBJECTS THE U. S. WOULD RATHER TAKE UP BILATERALLY OR AT THE HEMISPHERE LEVEL RATHER THAN ON A GLOBAL STAGE WITH THE RUSSIANS AND CHINESE AND THE THIRD WORLD IN A GLARE OF PUBLICITY."

MACVANE DISCUSSED TORRIJOS' SPEECH, THEN WHILE SHOWING FILM OF SCALI FOR UN CHAMBER SAID: " AMBASSADOR SCALI OF THE U. S. SAT THROUGHOUT TORRIJOS' SPEECH WITH A GRIM LOOK ON HIS FACE." FOLLOWED WITH FILM CLIP SCALI PRESS CONFERENCE SAYING " HE USED SHARPER LANGUAGE THAN I HOPED HE WOULD BUT THE IMPORTANT POINT IS THIS, THAT HE IS KNOCKING ON AN OPEN DOOR. THE WORLD KNOWS THAT THE U. S. UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 048998

IS READY TO MODERNIZE OUR TREATY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PANAMANIAN TO THE MUTUAL ADVANTAGE OF BOTH COUNTRIES, BUT IT TAKES TWO TO NEGOTIATE. WE HAVE BEEN READY AND WILLING TO NEGOTIATE AND ARE PREPARED TO DO SO AT AN INSTANT' S NOTICE AND IT IS BY PATIENT NEGOTIATION AND NOT RHETORIC THAT WE ARE GOING TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM." MACVANE CONCLUDED WITH " THE COUNCIL NOW HAS HELD ITS FIRST MEETING, GEN. TORRIJOS HAS TAKEN A TOUGH ANTI- U. S. LINE LIKE THE SIGNS THAT DOMINATE VARIOUS AREAS OF PANAMA. CERTAINLY THE U. S. HAS BEEN PUT ON THE DEFENSIVE AND BEFORE PUBLIC OPINION."

CBS RADIO CARRIED TWO REPORTS FROM HOTTELET. EVENING REPORT MARCH 15 HE SUMMARIZED TORRIJOS' SPEECH, THEN SAID: " AMBASSADOR JOHN SCALI DID NOT REPLY AT THE COUNCIL TABLE, HE TOLD US LATER THAT HE WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED BY THE

SHARPNESS OF TORRIJOS' SPEECH AND CALLED FOR RESUMPTION OF PRIVATE NEGOTIATIONS IN SOFTER TERMS." MORNING MARCH 16 HE AGAIN RECAPPED TORRIJOS' SPEECH, THEN SAID: " CUBA' S RAUL ROA SPOKE FOR AN HOUR FULLY ENDORSING PANAMA' S POSITION AND EXCORIATING THE U. S. AS IN HIS WORDS ' AGGRESSIVE CRIMINALS.' AMBASSADOR JOHN SCALI REPLIED IN HIS FIRST INTERVENTION SO FAR THAT ROA' S REMARKS WERE WILD, RECKLESS, FALSE COUNSELS OF HATE AND VOICES OF VENOM

WHICH WOULD NOT HELP THE CLIMATE OF UNDERSTANDING. SCALI' S WORDS MAY BE SIGNALS TO CUBA AND PANAMA AND TO OTHERS AS WELL THAT THE U. S. WILL NOT SIT STILL OR NEGOTIATE UNDER ABUSE."

PUBLIC TELEVISION' S PROGRAM " THE ADVOCATES" DEBATED TOPIC " SHOULD THE U. S. TURN OVER THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE TO PANAMA?" EVENING MARCH 15. SPEAKING FOR AFFIRMATIVE: ADVOCATE- FISHER, PROFESSOR HARVARD LAW SCHOOL; EX- GOVERNOR OF CANAL ZONE FLEMING; CONGRESSMAN HARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS. SPEAKING FOR NEGATIVE: ADVOCATE- CONGRESSMAN CRANE, ILLINOIS; CONGRESSMAN FLOOD, PENNSYLVANIA; DONALD DOZER, FORMER STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL. TRANSCRIPT UNAVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. ROGERS

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